

Message Text

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ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 INSE-00 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05 VO-03

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R 240407Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5291

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 2898

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS SREF VS CB

SUBJECT : PAROLE OF CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE DIPLOMATS

REFERENCE: STATE 121541

1. REQUIREMENT THAT APPLICANTS FOR PAROLE MUST HAVE
"BEEN DENIED PERMISSION TO SEEK ASYLUM IN HOST COUNTRY"
(PARA 2, REFTTEL) WILL EFFECTIVELY BAR CAMBODIAN AND
VIETNAMESE DIPLOMATS WHO FIND THEMSELVES IN TAIWAN.

2. GROC'S PUBLIC POSITION IS THAT IT WILLING PROVIDE
SAFEHAVEN FOR REFUGEES FROM INDOCHINA. IT IS, IN FACT,
PROVIDING ASSISTANCE IN SOME FORM TO APPROXIMATELY
4,000, MOSTLY STRANDED STUDENTS AND LARGELY "ETHNIC"
CHINESE, BUT INCLUDING SOME VIETNAMESE RESCUED BY
CHINESE VESSELS. IN LIGHT OF THE UNCERTAIN SITUATION
IN LAOS AND THAILAND, GROC AUTHORITIES ARE ANTICIPATING
WITH SOME TREPIDATION FLOW OF CHINESE FROM THOSE
COUNTRIES WHO WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ABSORB ON THIS
ALREADY OVER-POPULATED ISLAND AND WHO WILL PROBABLY
REQUIRE SOME DEGREE OF GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE.

3. GROC WOULD NOT WISH TO BE PUT INTO POSITION OF
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APPEARING TO HAVE DENIED CAMBODIAN OR VIETNAMESE

DIPLOMATS"PERMISSION TO SEE ASYLUM". BUT FEW, IF ANY, OF THESE STRANDED DIPLOMATS SPEAK CHINESE AND, IN EMBASSY'S OPINION, WOULD FIND IT MOST DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE, TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES OR FIND A REASONABLY ACCEPTABLE PLACE IN CHINESE SOCIETY.

4. SOME 20 CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE DIPLOMATS HAVE ALREADY INFORMED EMBASSY OF DESIRE SETTLE IN UNITED STATES. THEY HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THEY MUST FIRST SEEK RELOCATION ASSISTANCE ELSEWHERE, PARTICULARLY THROUGH THE UNHCR. WE ASSUME THEY ARE ENGAGED IN THIS PROCESS NOW, BUT EXPECT THEM TO RENEW THEIR REQUESTS TO US IN THE NOT DISTANT FUTURE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: IN VIEW OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED ABOVE, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY THE FACT THAT THE GROC HAS DEMONSTRATED ITS WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE IN THE "INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE REFUGEE PROBLEM", IT IS REQUESTED THAT CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE DIPLOMATS NOW STRANDED IN TAIWAN AND APPLYING FOR PAROLE TO THE UNITED STATES, BE EXEMPTED FROM THE REQUIREMENT THAT THEY BE CERTIFIED AS HAVING BEEN DENIED PERMISSION TO SEEK ASYLUM IN HOST COUNTRY.
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